

## MAIL ART

### NEWS

#### SARENCO WARNING NOTICE

In October '98, Sarenco proposed to exhibit and purchase 60 original works of mine for \$6000. He also agreed to pay \$250 for me to do a performance at the opening, and took "on consignment," books and drawings to a value of \$955, which was to be paid, as sold, or returned after the exhibit if not sold. Sarenco gave me a copy of an order for an electronic transfer of \$6250 before I left Verona December 6, but in fact, this order was never processed. All faxes I sent concerning proper channeling of these funds remain unanswered, and on Jan. 7, when I got him on the phone, he hung up after I asked if he had received my faxes. On Thurs. March 18, when I got him on the phone again, he assured me that "the matter will be resolved on Monday." I asked him to fax me the details of his arrangements for the money transfer, but silence reigns again . . . and my bank account has not been credited with the \$7205 he owes me.

During my week in Verona, Sarenco asked if I would collaborate on a big mail-art exhibition next year. Now I am asking all mail-artists to refuse any invitation for an exhibition of mail-art by Sarenco, and pass the word that he has not honored his financial commitment with me.

—Anna Banana, March 28, 1999

**National Centre of Contemporary Art (Kaliningrad Branch, Russia)** has opened. Among priorities will be one-man and collaborative projects in the sphere of International Network Culture. Special attention will be paid to modern experimental poetry: visual, sound, action, object, etc. Their first project, *A Point of View: Visual Poetry: The 90s* (ed. By Dmitry Bulatov, Simplicii, Kaliningrad, 1998: 592 p., 546 ill.), an anthology of international visual poetry has been published in Russia for the first time.

**Articles about the "Ray Johnson: Correspondences" show** at the Whitney Museum, which closed on 21 February include one by Margo Jefferson in the *New York Times*, 25 January 1999. Interesting comparison to Nellie Mae Rowe, an "outsider artist" whose show is at the Museum of American Folk Art. They both are cited as gifted and complicated with "a strange pull between their desire to communicate with a larger world and their urge to stay inside a small one, peopled only by their private thoughts and apparitions." In the 15 January issue, Holland Cotter reviews the exhibition with great sensitivity and intelligence. Cotter says that Johnson had great limitations but his work is one long triumph of them. In the 28 February article, comments about Ray by his friends and gathered by Amei Wallach, were published Arthur C. Danto, the famed art

historian and philosopher, wrote an article in *The Nation* called "Correspondance School Art" in the March 29 issue. Highlighted on ABCNEWS.com was an article by Mark Bloch called **Leap of Faith: Known for Working Small, Artist Ray Johnson finally Makes It Big**. In addition, in *Art on Paper* for March/April, Paul Gardner has written a review of the show.

**Hot Buttered Mail Art**, compiled by Laura Poll is reviewed by Edmund Conti in *Small Magazine Review* for November-December 1999. Laura put out a call for contributors to handcraft or Xerox 100 items, which she would put in her 100 popcorn boxes, but she didn't collect 100 items, for only 47 contributors sent in work. It's a great review, and if you need to hear all about it, rite to SMR, P.O. Box 100, Paradise, CA 95967. Laura's address is Box 703, Navesink, NJ 07752. The popcorn box costs \$7.00 U.S., \$8.00 Canada and Mexico and \$10 everywhere else.

**The Mark Rose collection of mail art, artists' stamps, and zines** (38 boxes) includes artist books, exhibition catalogs, books about mail art, and related documentation, as well as "various issues of zines including *Farm Pulp*, *The Mad Engineer*, ND, *Obscure Publications and Video*, *PhotoStatic Magazine*, *Lo Straniero*, and *Umbrella*." Gift to UCLA Arts Library Special Collections.

**E.F. Higgins III** is interviewed about The Rivington School, a sculpture garden in downtown New York City where "freaky people still do their thing, in spite of being surrounded by increasing amounts of high-priced real estate. The interview appears in *Wingnut #4*, which was named after a lost piece of Higgins' artwork which had found its way into a trash can in Providence, Rhode Island. The object was a framed square of rug material, about one foot to a side, with the word "Wingnut" emblazoned quite clearly over about a third of its surface area, and what the zine now knows to have been the logo of its creator, a hexagonal nut sprouting symmetrical puffy wings. For more information, contact *Wingnut*, P.O. Box 603128, Providence, RI 02906.

**Father Bucci**, the bootlegging priest of Burbank, made huge religious murals out of postage stamps most of which took over 25 years and 200,000 stamps. He covered his living and dining rooms with these intricate designs in the matched stamps of the world. Bucci. Ordained in his native Italy in 1899, he came to the U.S. in 1905, assigned to New York and Salt Lake City for short stints, and then served the local Italian community in Los Angeles. In 1918 he became the priest of a church in Tres Pinos, a small town 36 miles east of Salinas, then part of the Los Angeles Archdiocese.

Two years later, Prohibition became the law of the land. Priests were given permission to make wine for religious purposes, but Bucci went farther and installed a distillery in the sacristy of the church. Arrested in 1922, Bucci saw the case dropped so that the Bishop would deal with the priest himself. Bucci had to return to Italy, but the priest refused and instead moved to the Los Angeles area. Bucci was no longer authorized to perform priestly functions. Having set up a chapel in his sister's home, he became a priest for hire, officiating at baptisms, wedding and funerals. He finally came to terms with Catholic officials on his death bed in 1959.

**Transmit: Fluxus + Mail Art + Net.Works** is the exhibition at the Queens Borough Public Library which opened on 2 February and closed on 28 March. There is a small catalog available from the Queens Library, 89-11 Merrick Blvd., Jamaica, NY 11432 and is also on-line at <http://www.queenslibrary.org/transmit> with links to Fluxus, Mail Art, Web Art and Unsolicited mail art.

**Dragonfly Dream** will be having an exhibition in Los Angeles this month from 23 April - 31 July in ongoing exhibits in Gardena (Los Angeles area) California and in Louisville, with possibilities in Atlanta and Chicago.

**Before/Now: Images of the self, past and present**, curated by Barbara Drucker is an International Mail-Art Exhibition to be exhibited from 8 April - 1 May at Artworks/Bookarts, Bergamot Station, Santa Monica, CA with hours from Thursday - Saturday, 12 - 5 p.m.

**Re: The E-Mail-Art & Internet-Art Manifesto** is Volume III, no. 1 (December 1997) of the Electronic Mail Art Netzine, **E-Pêlè-Mêlè** includes e-mail messages about the Manifesto. Volume III, no. 2 (December 1997) deals with an E-mail Interview with G. Bleus by Ruud Janssen. For more information, contact Guy Bleus, [gb@popost.eunet.be](mailto:gb@popost.eunet.be) Or P.O. Box 43, 3830 Wellen, Belgium.

## CALL FOR ENTRIES

**Moving without Motion.** For inclusion in 23-24 reception in April, send by 19 April 1999 work in all mediums, any size, no jury, no returns, documentation to all participants. Send to Moving without Motion, the Creative Eye studio, 17827 Denker Ave., Gardena, CA 90248 USA. Project deadline: 31 July 1999.

**Messages for the New Millennium.** The Peace Museum requests submissions for an exhibition of international postcard messages for the new millennium. The postcard messages will come from around the world from peace museums, cultural institutions, artist groups, school groups, international mail art groups, cyberspace, celebrities and musicians. Any medium, all submissions must be flat with

a maximum size of 8.5 x 11". Open to all individuals. All submissions will become property of the Peace Museum. Exhibition: 3 December 1999 to February 2000 and then travel to peace museums internationally. Documentation to all! **Deadline: 1 November 1999.** Send to The Peace Museum, 314 West Institute Place, Chicago, IL 60610.

**Tibet Mail Art.** Ongoing call for mailart with theme of "Free Tibet". Works will be exhibited at the Living Poets website: <http://dougal.derby.acu.uk/1>. No jury, no fees, no returns. Any media, maximum size A4. Send to: Dragonheart Press, 11 Menin Rd., Allestree, Derby DE22 2NL, United Kingdom. **Deadline: none.**

**Dreams of the Millennium: The Millennium approaches.** Will the year 2000 (or 2001) be just another year or will our universe change in ways we cannot yet imagine? Send me your written dream(s) on this subject--or other ruminous/luminous dreams and in return receive a copy of other dreams submitted. Send to Elaine Langerman, 3716 Yuma St. NW, Washington, DC 20015. **Deadline: ongoing**

**Limping or Soaring to the Millennium.** Images & text preferred. Max. Size: 15.24 x 12.86 cm. **Deadline: 31 December 1999.** The Sticker Dude Institute, Ragged Edge Press, 102 Fulton St., New York, NY 10038. Or send e-mail to [stkrdude@interport.net](mailto:stkrdude@interport.net)

**Artists' Stamps.** To contribute to a philatelic exhibition to be held in Lausanne, Switzerland. Please send 100 examples of your own postage stamp, a project of postage stamps for a real or fictitious nation or both. Every participant will receive a souvenir print. If you have an in Internet Connection, please have a look at Micronations to give you some suggestions. For a more spectacular result, send more than 100 stamps. They can be included in more booklets. Send all material to Rastorfer J-M, Case 54, Bergiere, CH 1000 Lausanne, Switzerland. **Deadline: Unknown.**

**The Secret Life of Marcel Duchamp.** Send your original black and white work. 14 x 21 cm. Subject: Fresh Window. Documentation to all participants. Send to: The Secret Life of Marcel Duchamp, 10, Pascal Lenoir, 11 Ruelle de Champagne, 60680 Grandfresnoy, France. **Deadline: Unknown.**

**Jokers.** From a real or imaginary deck of cards, decorated or not. The Jokers will be put into a book. **No deadline.** Occasional documentation. All contributions will be included. Send to Jokers! P.O. Box 31848, Seattle, WA 98103.

**Rubberstamp Mailart Project.** Online documentation. Send unusual/fluxus/dada/surreal rubberstamps (not images). No returns. Send to Planet Dada, 11 Menin Rd.,

Allestree, Derby DE22 2NL, UK. **Deadline: 31 December 1999.**

**Ireland Today.** Artists of the international mail art network & Irish artists are invited to send their viewpoint of the Ireland of today. Maximum size A4 (ca. 21x30 cm). Any technique & medium. No jury, no sales & no return. Documentation to all. **Deadline: 1 July 1999.** Send to: Francis Fan Mail, P.O.Box 66, L-6401 Echternach, Luxembourg, [phi@phi.lu](mailto:phi@phi.lu). Exhibition: In different places in County Mayo, Ireland in August 1999. Internet: <http://www.phi.lu/ireland.html>, list of participants, gallery and details about exhibitions. Catalogue: a documentation will be sent to all participants after the show. Supported by Mayo County Council.

**191: A Mail Art Assemblage Zine.** Urgent call for themed submissions. Send 24 pages 1/4 A4 size, leaving 1 cm. On the longest edge and receive a bound issue of the zine. Specific upcoming themed issues desperately in need of submissions to complete those already received are: Picasso & Cubism, Artistamps. Mail pages to Planet Dada 11 Menin Rd., Allestree, Derby DE22 2NL, England.

**Signs & Stones & Snakes.** Any size, any medium. Documentation and installation in the Cureghem area in Belgium. The Snake Project is a mural painting project around a new park in construction in a deprived neighborhood in Brussels. Help to restore the social tissue! Break the isolation of local people with your art! Rebirth is the medicine of the snake. Curator: Guido Vermeulen, P.O. Box 243, B1210 Brussels, Belgium. **Deadline: 1 January 2000.**

**Artist Notebooks (III).** Artist notebooks will enter its third year and jump into the new millennium. Send art & stories of your lives in notebooks (handmade or bought). Contribute to the memory 8in bookform of how (mail)artists saw the end of this century, what they did, how they related to the world, who their friends & lovers were, what was their art all about, where they lived, how their environment related to art & way of life, etc. Follow up documentation will be produced after the very successful but controversial one in 1998 (cfr the Numero debate). Travel exhibitions with the notebooks will follow. Notebook rituals will be documented as my own life develops according to the patterns of nature. The science of life can be witnessed in each flower. **Deadline: 1 January 2000.** Send to Guido Vermeulen, P.O. Box 243, B1210 Brussels, Belgium.

**My Head is a Mirror of Art.** In our heads are gathered all the pluses and minuses, all the arithmetic and dividends of the art of this century. Let's count and make the balance to shape the new millennium of art. Any size, any medium. Documentation to all. **Deadline is 5 May 1999.** Send to Stanislav Tropp, Turecka 263, 97602 Stare Hory, Slovakia.

**Cancer and the Environment.** 2D medium, not larger than 13 x 21 cm. (5 x 8 inches). Catalog to all. Entries will be displayed in April - May. Project supported by the Women's Cancer Resource Centre and the Richard & Rhoda Goldman Fund. **Deadline: 1 April 1999.** Send to Mail Art Show WCRC, 3023 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, CA 94705 USA.

**Leaves and Leave-takings.** Any medium, no deadline, reply to all and new documentation to expect. Send to Bonita McLaughlin, 41A Richardson Rd., Leverett, MA 01054 USA.

**Brazil 500 years.** A celebration of the discovery of Brazil 500 years ago. Any medium, maximum size: A4. **Deadline: 31 July 1999.** Exhibition and documentation. Send to Galeria de Arte Vera Ferro, Rua Helena Steimberg 348, Campinas Sao Paulo, 13092-481 Brasil.

**The Secret Life of a Mermaid.** 2D, size: A-4. Send your picture, poem, story, song, drawing, painting, collage etc. to: Zena Zero Press, Dilgtweg 26 9751 NH Haren, The Netherlands. Answer to all.

**Marriage, Cryptic Style.** Use a term or euphemism for marriage as the basis for your piece. Some examples include marriage, matrimony wedlock; 'tying the knot', 'making it legal', 'taking the plunge', 'jumping the broom', 'buying the cow', 'making an honest woman of her'. Or use terms/euphemisms for the concept of spouse like: husband and wife, life partners; 'the old ball and chain', 'the little missus', 'one's better half', 'one's lord and master', 'trouble and strife', 'she whom all must obey'. Don't, by any means, feel limited by this list! These are just the terms which came to mind as I sat down to write this. Positive or negative representations or spoofs of these, or other, terms for marriage and the concept of the spouse are welcome. Please feel free to participate whatever your opinion of the institution or any of its patrons. Media: Anything which can come through the mail. No returns, no fees, all pieces will be shown at my wedding reception on the weekend of June 26/27 (all participants will be notified of the time and place) and a catalog will be sent to all who participate. **Deadline: 12 June 1999.** Send to Carla Cryptic, PO Box 1274, Berkeley, CA 94701-1274.

**Photobooth:** Send your photobooth photos to: Igor Stevanvic, B. Jerkovic 215/17, 11000 Beograd, Yugoslavia. Documentation to all. **No deadline.**

**Social Work.** Dignity for all persons. What is your personal interpretation of Social Work? What cause strikes a chord in you? Pick a theme such as mental illness, child abuse, or address the general theme of social work. **Deadline: 15 June 1999.** Documentation to all who submit. No jury, no returns. Size limit to 8 x 5½ inches. Any medium. Send to

Hemingway, c/o J. Sebast, MSC #349, 100 Marymount Ave., Tarrytown, NY 10591 USA.

**Hopes for the Millennium.** Show me your dreams, desires and plans for the coming year 2000. You see, I live with a man who believes the world as we know it will end and society will turn to a Mad Max kind way of life. I don't want to believe it. I want to have some hope. Join me. Any medium, any technique, no size restrictions, no doomsday stuff, no porno. **Deadline:** 31 December 1999. Documentation in 2000. Work will be displayed in my Internet Gallery at Dragonfly Dream, <http://www.rt66.com/~dragonfly>

**Post it! Send a Momento to Momenta.** (Momento: a thing given, bought etc. and kept as a reminder (of a person, a place or an event) Find, make, discover or create a momento and send it to Momento '99's mass participation event, Post It! Your momento can be in any size or medium but it must arrive through the post. Make sure you include your name and address. All momentos will be displayed in the Old Post Office. Geelong during Momento 99 Arts Geelong from 22 May til 13 June. Works will not be returned, but all participants will receive a momento of the exhibition. **Deadline: 1 May 1999.** Send to Post It! C/o David Dellaflora (Field Study), Geelong Art Gallery, Little Malop St., Geelong VIC 3220, Australia.

**Artist's Book Exchange.** Send one of your artist's books to Pat. She will send you one of hers in return along with a list of all the addresses of other members of the exchange (currently 199 people from across the planet). After that it's up to you to negotiate exchanges with others on the list. Send to Pat Collins, Artist's Book Exchange, 128 Kingston Rd., Teddington, Middlesex, UK.

**Postcard Exchange.** Donate non-enveloped postcard for my Archive and you'll receive one in return. Send to Predrag Popovic, Brace Poljakovic 5, 34000 Kragujevac, Yugoslavia.

**Transformation Through Reading.** How has reading changed, expanded or transformed your life? Where has it taken you? Help me introduce mail art to my community. Submission guidelines. No jury. No returns. Documentation to all. **Deadline:** 30 September 1999. Size limit, no larger than 11 x 17 or 28cm. X 43 cm. No ex-rated materials. To be exhibited in a public library during the month of October 1999. E-mail address: [Ishardee@hotmail.com](mailto:Ishardee@hotmail.com) Mailing address: Chapin Memorial Library, Att: Lesta Sue Hardee, 400 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. North, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577 USA. Any questions, e-mail Lesta Sue Hardee. Otherwise, mail it.

**Child Abuse.** All media, no returns, no fees, no jury, max. size A4, documentation to all. International Art Project of "Catarinense Human Rights Society" and "Museum of

International Contemporary Art". **Deadline: 30 September 2000.** All works must be sent to Dorian Ribas Marinho, Caixa Postal No. 676, Florianopolis (SC), Brazil 88010-970.

**Visual Poetry Wanted.** The magazine Signs of Santa Clara, the city where Che Guevara is buried, is preparing a special edition of visual poetry and they want work from around the world, because they don't have enough poems, and because visual poetry is not well known in Cuba. Send contributions to Revista Signos, gaveta Postal 19, Santa Clara, c.p. 50100, Villa Clara, Cuba.

**Signal** has a new e-mail address for Mirosljub Todorovic at [signal@ptt.yu](mailto:signal@ptt.yu). For those of you who may not know, **Signal** is a resurrected visual and word poetry periodical published in Belgrade which was suspended in the 1970s. It welcomes essays about all aspects of word art and visual poetry.

**Marriage, Cryptic Style.** Use a term or euphemism for marriage as the basis for your piece. Some examples include: marriage, matrimony, wedlock, "tying the knot", "making it legal", "taking the plunge", "mumping the broom", "buying the cow", "making an honest woman of her". Or use terms/ euphemisms for the concept of spouse like: husband and wife, life partners, "the old ball and chain", "the little missus", one's better half", one's lord and master, trouble and strife, she whom all must obey. Don't, by any means, feel limited by this list! These are just the terms which come to mind as I sat down to write this. Positive or negative representations or spoofs of these, or other terms for marriage and the concept of the spouse are welcome. Please feel free to participate whatever your opinion of the institution or any of its patrons. Media: anything which can come through the mail. No returns, no fees, all pieces will be shown at my wedding reception on the weekend of June 26/27 (all participants will be notified of the time and place? And a catalog will be sent to all participants. Send to Carla Cryptic, P.O. Box 1274, Berkeley, CA 94701-1274.

**Dignity vs. Blockade.** Exhibition will be in Trois Rivieres, Quebec, Canada the week of 11 - 17 July 1999 and will then re-located to Quebec City, and to Montreal, concluding in the House of Culture of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples, in Havana, Cuba. No limits, any medium, any size. No returns. Catalog to all participants. **Deadline: 1 July 1999.** Send to Cuba, 40 Anniversary, 1924 rue Cartier, Montreal, P.Q., c.p. H2K 4E6, Canada.

**E-mail alteration.** Please alter this e-mail in any way you choose and return the results to Alan Bowman in e-mail form or as an attachment to: [alanfffo@hotmail.com](mailto:alanfffo@hotmail.com) or on paper to: Via Lorenzago 15, int. 7, 30174 Mestre, Venezia, Italy. Please include a postal address for documentation. Any incompatible attachments will be reproduced in any way I can think of.

**Handicap, The Rights of Man and Art.** Send postcards. **Deadline: 30 May 1999.** School if one for physically handicapped by various genetic diseases. Send to L. Demont-Wassel, M. Rohart, Ecole CEM Thalassa, Institut Cazin Perrochaud, 1 rue du grand hotel, 62600 Berck-sur-Mer, France.

**Mani Art,** mail art magazine. Send 60 pages, size 15x21 cm. Or 60 postcards. No black and white photocopies. Leave 1 cm. On longest side. Every contributor gets one issue with all works. No deadline. Send to Pascal Lenoir, 11 Ruelle de Champagne, 60680 Grandfresnoy, France.

**Millennium.** Any medium. Will involve conferences, performances, exhibitions. Mysticism, magic, fear, anxiety, play, destruction and creation. **Deadline: 15 November 1999.** Send to Millennium, Vittorio Baccelli, c.p. 132, 55100 Lucca, Italy.

**Polarities.** The world is full of polarities, and we as humans are usually pulled between them. Empty/full, light/dark, good/bad, busy/still, complex/simple, hot/cold, love/hate...what are the polarities in your life now? Maximum size: 6 x 9 inches. Documentation to all. Exhibition will be posted on the website. Send to Polarities, c/o Cat, 5831 SE Taylor, Portland, OR 97215.

**Ambiorix.** This king of the Eburons is a symbol against cultural oppression. The statue of Ambiorix was erected in 1866 on the marketplace in Tongeren, which was the capital of the Tungri tribe. It was the center of a revolt against the Imperium Romanum (Julius Caesar) in 54 B.C. The exhibition will be in "De Velinx" in Tongeren with all the entries from 11 June 2000 until 11 September 2000. A number of mail art catalogues and other artifacts from the T.A.C.-42.292 archives will be shown. No fee, no jury, no rejections, no returns. Every participant will receive a CD-Rom Catalogue. Size: Postcard size (max: 3.90 x 5.60 inches, or 14.5 x 10 cm.). **Deadline: 30 June 1999.** Mail now for an exhibition in the new Millennium. Send all entries to 2000/Ambiorix Project/Tongeren, Guy Bleus Archives, P.O. Box 150, 3700 Tongeren, Belgium.



## SHOWS NOT TO MISS

**John Singer Sargent Retrospective** at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC through 31 May, then to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston from 23 June - 26 September.

**Diego Rivera: Art and Revolution** includes 120 paintings and drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art through 2 May. The show travels to Los Angeles County Museum of Art (30 May - 16 August), the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston (19 September - 28 November) and the Museo de Arte Moderno in Mexico City (17 December - 19 March 2000).

**The Treasury of St. Francis of Assisi,** 16 March - 27 June at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City.

**Matisse and Picasso: A Gentle Rivalry** at the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth, Texas with more than 100 paintings, drawings and sculptures from around the world, running through 2 May 1999.

**New Worlds from Old,** showing 123 works lent by 45 institutions, provides an unprecedented opportunity to view Australian paintings in relation to American landscapes at the Wadsworth Atheneum through January 3. The show moves to the Corcoran Gallery in Washington from 26 January through 18 April.

**Edgar Degas, Photographer** at the Getty Museum in Los Angeles in February, and to the Bibliothèque Nationale de France in May.

**Jim Dine: Walking Memory, 1959-1969,** at Guggenheim Museum on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. at 89<sup>th</sup> in New York City.

**Fever: The Art of David Wojnarowicz** through 20 June at the New Museum of Contemporary Art, SoHo, New York City.

**Nellie Mae Rowe: Ninety-Nine and a Half Won't Do** at the Museum of American Folk Art, 2 Lincoln Sq., New York City through 16 May.

**The Wormsley Library,** a personal selection by Sir Paul Getty, Morgan Library, New York City through 2 May.

**The Eye of Paris,** curated by Anne Wilkes Tucker, at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston through February. Then on to the Getty and then the National Gallery of Art in Washington. This is the first major museum retrospective of Brassai's work to be held in the U.S. since the one at MOMA in New York in 1968.